

Memorandum

TO : Assistant Director for Operations

DATE: 8 November 1963

FROM : Chief, Foreign Documents Division

SUBJECT: FDD Monthly Progress Report for October

1. Chief, Free World Section, Foreign Installations Branch, Special Register briefed [] personnel on 4 October concerning the current status of the Branch's requirements and operations. FDD was requested to continue collection against the requirements prevailing before the Industrial Register's reorganization until such requirements are refined to coincide with the mission of the new organization.

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2. On 23 October Chiefs of Asia and Support Branches, FDD, attended a demonstration of the RCA Chinese Ideographic Photocomposer on display at the Association of the U. S. Army Exhibit, Sheraton Park Hotel. This is essentially an electronic Chinese type-setting machine developed under [] contract for Army for the purpose of streamlining the printing of training manuals, booklets, leaflets, and the like for use in Asia. The machine is capable of reproducing approximately 100 characters per minute on film from which a lithograph plate is made for offset printing.

FDD interest was in the possibility that the system might eventually be used for Chinese input into the IBM Automatic Language Processor. OCS experts who also attended the demonstration discounted this capability for the present RCA machine, but saw a potential in the stroke and symbol keyboard of the device for adaptation to MT input.

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3. At month's end the Division took stock of the progress achieved toward realization of the MT/Stenowriter capability.



Six of the thirteen Cyrillic keyboard Flexowriters on order have arrived at Franconia. With the receipt of the remaining Flexowriters and required desk-stands, instruction of Flexotypists will begin in FDD.

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Foreign Technology Division has given firm 25X1A assurance during the month that it is prepared to process FDD's estimated [] per day of Russian on the AN/GSQ-16 MT computer. This cooperative translation program is planned for initiation within three to six weeks after Flexotyping instruction is begun in FDD.

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Enclosures:

1. Statistical Report
2. Details of personnel actions

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